UNITED
NATIONS

E

Economic and Social Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/C.2/1993/5
1 December 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMITTEE ON NON-GOVERNMENTAL
ORGANIZATIONS
18-29 January 1993
Item 5 of the provisional agenda*

REVIEW OF FUTURE ACTIVITIES

Annual informal consultation of 1992 between the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council

Note by the Secretariat

1. The annual informal consultation was held in New York on 8 April 1992 under the chairmanship of Annie Marie Sundbom (Sweden), Chairman of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations.

Modalities for the participation of non-governmental organizations in conferences convened by the United Nations

2. Participants noted that in the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development process no distinction had been made between non-governmental organizations in consultative status with a worldwide constituency and non-governmental organizations composed of a few persons. Non-governmental organizations in consultative status had been deprived of their rights and this had caused frustration for those organizations in consultative status that had been excluded. The process should be managed more carefully for future conferences convened by the United Nations. The experience with the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development should not be repeated. It was not acceptable to request non-governmental organizations in consultative status to go through additional "accreditation" procedures.

---

* E/C.2/1993/1.

92-76473 3823d (E) 301292 050193

/...

3. It was noted that different rules with regard to the participation of non-governmental organizations in forthcoming conferences had been recommended by the Commission on the Status of Women and by the Preparatory Committee for the World Conference on Human Rights. In that respect, it was noted that it was strange that the Commission on the Status of Women had recommended a review of Council resolution 1296 (XLIV) when the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations had just reaffirmed that resolution 1296 (XLIV) should remain the guiding element and basis for its work. This demonstrated the need for consulting the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations regarding modalities for the participation of non-governmental organizations in future United Nations conferences.

Resolutions adopted by the Assembly of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council (CONGO) in 1991

4. The participants were informed of the resolutions adopted by CONGO at its triennial Assembly, held at Geneva in October/November 1991.

Establishment of a United Nations voluntary fund for non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council

5. It was suggested that the establishment of a United Nations voluntary fund for non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council could assist those organizations in sending more of their representatives from the developing world to attend United Nations meetings and conferences. The meeting felt that the suggestion deserved further consideration.